

Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

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ROME FOR FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: FAO, UN, UNWFC, IFAD, AORG, EAGR

SUBJ: FAO RELATIONS WITH WORLD FOOD COUNCIL, INTERNATIONAL

FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT, AND CONSULTATIVE
GROUP ON FOOD PRODUCTION AND INVESTMENT

REF: STATE 043314

1. WE APPRECIATE RECEIVING THE CONTINGENCY GUIDANCE IN
REFTEL AND WILL BE ALERT TO THE CONCERNS IT REFLECTS ABOUT
US OBJECTIVES IN RELATION TO THE UN COMPLEX OF INTERNATION-
AL AGRICULTURAL INSTITUTIONS. WE HOPE THAT US VIEWS ON THE
SUBSTANTIVE AND OPERATIONAL CONSIDERATION INVOLVED WERE
MADE CLEAR TO SAOUWA DURING HIS WASHINGTON VISIT.

2. THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON RESTRUCTURING IS PRESENTLY HEARING
HEADS OF A NUMBER OF UN AGENCIES IN THE COURSE OF ITS
GENERAL DEBATE. IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT THE COMITEE WILL ADDRESS
ANY OF THESE STATEMENTS IN DETAIL AT ITS PRESENT SESSION
ALTHOUGH IT WILL HAVE TO ESTABLISH A WORK PROGRAM.

3. WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT US INTERESTS IN CONNECTION WITH

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THE VARIOUS UN-RELATED AGRICULTURAL INSTITUTIONS CAN BE

PROTECTED IN THE COURSE OF THE RESTRUCTURING EXERCISE.
ON THE OTHER HAND, IT WOULD BE A MISTAKE FOR THE US TO
ARGUE--AS THE SECOND PARA OF THE REFTEL SEEMS TO DO--
THAT THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN FAO, IFAD, WFC, AND CGFPI IS
NOT WITHIN THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE AD HOC COMITE.
THE COMITE'S MANDATE IN GA RES 3362 DOES NOT RULE OUT ANY
ASPECT OF THE UN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SYSTEM A PRIORI.
MOREOVER, THE USG STRONGLY ENDORSED THE BROAD PURPOSES OF
RESTRUCTURING IN SECRETARY KISSINGER'S SEPTEMBER 1 SPEECH
TO THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION. LASTLY, WE BELIEVE THAT EM-
PHASIZING THIS QUASI-LEGAL ARGUMENT WOULD BE COUNTERPRO-
DUCTIVE TACTICALLY. IT COULD RAISE DOUBTS ABOUT OUR OVER-
ALL POSTURE ON RESTRUCTURING. IT COULD STIMULATE IN A
DISADVANTAGEOUS CONTEXT A PREMATURE DEBATE ABOUT
WHAT SOME UN MEMBERS SEE AS AN UNDESIRABLE PROLIFERATION
OF NEW AGENCIES. ON THE OTHER HAND, WE BELIEVE THERE ARE
ENOUGH OTHER COUNTRIES--INCLUDING DEVELOPING COUNTRIES--
WITH A REAL STAKE IN THE AGRICULTURAL INSTITUTIONS TO
PROVIDE INSURANCE AGAINST UNDESIRABLE EFFORTS TO CHANGE
THE PRESENT SET-UP.

4. IN SHORT, WE AGREE WITH THE SENSE OF PARA SEVEN OF
REFTEL--THAT RESTRUCTURING MUST NOT GET IN THE WAY OF UR-
GENT AND IMPORTANT EFFORTS TO DEAL WITH THE WORLD FOOD
PROBLEM OR INTERFERE WITH WORKABLE INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGE-
MENTS TO THAT END. WE THINK IT WOULD BE WRONG, HOWEVER,
AND CONTRARY TO US INTERESTS TO RULE OUT IN ADVANCE
APPROPRIATE CONSIDERATION OF HOW ANY PARTICULAR BODIES
FIT INTO THE OVERALL STRUCTURE OF THE UN ECONOMIC AND
SOCIAL SYSTEM.

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